



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q76299

Toshiaki MIZUNO, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/603,927

Group Art Unit: 3724

Confirmation No.: 3437

Examiner: Timothy V. Eley

Filed: June 26, 2003

For: DRAINING DEVICE AND LENS PROCESSING SYSTEM HAVING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Examiner has identified the application as containing claims directed to two (2) distinct species. The Examiner has required the Applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted. The Examiner believes that claims 5 is generic. Applicant has been advised that a response to this requirement shall include an identification of the species that is elected and a listing of all claims readable thereon.

In response to the Examiner's requirement, Applicant elects Species II, for examination on which claims 3-6, 9, 10 and 12-14 are readable.

Applicant submits that if any of the elected claims are found to be allowable, claims dependent therefrom should similarly be considered allowable in the same application.

Applicant reserves the right to file a Divisional Application directed to non-elected claims 1, 2, 7, 8 and 11.

Response to Election of Species
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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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